NEUTRALS—4.

1 Mr. Antony George	3 Mr. S. Thiraviam Nadar
2 „ M. K. Janardhana Kammath	4 „ P. K. Thomas

THROWING OPEN OF SCHOOLS, SATRAMS AND ROADS TO ALL CLASSES OF PEOPLE.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*) : സർ, ഏതാനും ചില സത്രങ്ങളിലും റോഡുകളിലും ഇന്നിയും എല്ലാ സമുദായക്കാർക്കും ഒന്നു പോലെ പ്രവേശനസ്വാതന്ത്ര്യം ഇല്ലാതെയാണിരിക്കുന്നതു. എന്നാൽ [illegible] പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ച ക്ഷേത്രപ്രവേശനവിളംബരംകൊണ്ടു ഇപ്പോൾ ന്യൂനതകളും [illegible] രിഹരിക്കാവുന്നതായതുകൽ ഈ പ്രമേയം ഇപ്പോൾ അവതരിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല.

CULTIVATION OF TOBACCO.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Sir, I wish to move the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government that the prohibition against the cultivation of tobacco be removed"

It is admitted on all hands that every possible step must be taken for promoting the national prosperity.

MR. T. K. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara II*) : I wish to know from the member whether at present there is any complete prohibition against the cultivation of tobacco ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) Under the present law without necessary rules there is complete prohibition. The attempt of the Government as well as the people is to find out means of giving employment to as large a section of the unemployed as possible. It is also the anxious consideration of the general public that the economic drain of our State must be brought to the minimum possible. Tobacco has become almost a necessity as far as our people are concerned. We are importing tobacco to the value of about Rs. 50 lakhs annually and the Government are getting an income of Rs. 20 to 24 lakhs per annum. By this resolution I do not want to reduce the revenue which the Government derive from tobacco, but I want to see that our State becomes self-sufficient at least as far as tobacco is concerned, and the present abnormal drain under this head is stopped altogether. With regard to the question that has been put by my friend Mr. T. Krishna Pillai whether there is at present absolute prohibition of the cultivation of tobacco I may tell the House that, in practice, there is absolute prohibition. There was prohibition of tobacco cultivation in the State. But the Government themselves thought that it was

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desirable that that prohibition was removed and that facilities were given for the cultivation of tobacco. With that view the Government enacted Regulation I of 1087, *i.e.*, the Tobacco Regulation. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons of that Regulation it is stated —

"The chief point on which the Bill departs from the previous Regulations is a provision permitting the cultivation of indigenous tobacco under necessary safeguards. No explanation can now be seriously required for opening a fresh and profitable industry to the people, without seriously telling upon the revenue of the State. In more than one Session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, representations have been brought forward, requesting permission for the cultivation of tobacco. It is desirable to afford the people reasonable facilities for the cultivation of the article, providing at the same time, whatever precautions may be necessary in the interest of revenue".

With that object Regulation I of 1037 was passed twenty-five years ago. In Section 4 of that Regulation it is stated:—

"Except as permitted by this Regulation, or by any other enactment relating to tobacco for the time being in force, or by the Rules published under this Regulation or under any such enactment, no one shall

(*a*) cultivate, (*b*) manufacture, (*c*) possess, (*d*) transport (*e*) import, (*f*) export, or (*g*) sell tobacco."

So, if no rules have been framed during all these 25 years the effect has been that no person shall cultivate tobacco. So it is absolute prohibition. In 1087, Government said that much argument was not needed to open up a new field for carrying on a new industry like tobacco cultivation. After this the necessity for removing the ban on tobacco cultivation was brought to the notice of Government by a resolution in the Legislative Council in December 1927. At that time when the discussion was proceeding the then Director of Agriculture and the present Chief Secretary to Government said that by cultivation of tobacco, in one acre of land a profit of Rs. 400 could be derived. (Mr. G. Nilakantan: I question that). This is what I find in the official proceedings. Sir, I cannot find a better authority than Dr. Kunjan Pillai on this subject and his opinion is found in the published proceedings.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You need not give heed to what is being said behind you.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): But that is causing some interruption to my speech.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Unless that member of the House has got anything definite to say in the proper way it requires that you need not notice it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): This is what is stated in page 204 of the proceedings: —

"DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries:*) I am told that in places where they cultivate tobacco they invest about Rs. 100 for farmyard manure and about 40 to 50 rupees for chemical manures and the total cost of cultivation will be about Rs. 400 per acre. In this respect tobacco is like sugarcane crop. If a person invests about Rs. 400 per acre, he is sure to get about Rs. 800 income so that he will get a net profit of about Rs. 400.....

"MR. K. SIVARAMA PANICKAR (*Shertala*): May I know the amount of tobacco that can be produced in one acre of land?

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[Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan-]

"Dr. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Director of Agriculture and Fisheries:*) That depends upon the conditions of the soil and climate. The average may be taken as 1300 lbs per acre, or even more provided the soil is fertile and is heavily manured."

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Did he say that there is plenty of land in Travancore for that?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : He said that that requires investigation. Further on, he says:

"I have not tried tobcco cultivation myself. As a matter of fact, I only say what I have read in books and heard from other people. This question of tobacco cultivation was brought up in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. Then Govt ernment wanted to make an experiment and I suggested that somebody might be deputed to Jaffna to study the conditions obtaining there in regard to cultivation of tobacco. Subsequently, the proposal, was dropped."

That is what happend then.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I inform the member that, even before 1087, tobacco was being cultivated in South Travancore near Aramboly?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : That is what my friend said in the course of discussion on that occassion.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar-Vakil*) : Does the esimated profit of Rs. 400 per acre include the duty charged on tobacco?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : I do not know. Duty has to be fixed only after we begin cultivation. There is no excise duty on tobacco cultivation at present.

And, the Excise Commissioner has replied as follows : On page 229 it is stated thus:—

"In view of the strong feeling that exists in the House, the Director of Agriculture will be asked by Government to make experiments in tobacco cultivation. If they produce promising results and if applicants for license thereafter come forward the question of framing rules under Section 31 of the Tobacco Regulation will be considered".

On that promise we relied. That promise was made in 1927, and now we are in 1937. It is clear that Government themselves admitted that it was a matter on which earnest attention would be paid and it would be their endeavour to ascertain whether tobacco could be successfully cultivated, and if so in which parts of the state it could be done. We were assured that after both these questions were decided, rules would be framed under Section 31 of the Tobacco Regulation.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*) : Does the member suggest that every body should be given the right to cultivate tobacco without any control?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Sir, in the programme that I have stated I do not want to make any proposal which would bring down Government revenue. My main object in bringing forward this resolution is to see that we are enabled to carry on an industry, which it

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is possible to carry on in this country both for the purpose of minimising the drain on our revenue, due to the importing of tobocco, as well as to make our State self-sufficient as far as this product is concerned. We are now importing tobacco from Jaffna, Coimbatore and other places; and as a matter of fact we heard two days back how much leakage of revenue there was in tobacco revenue and how much advantage was being taken, by unscrupulous adventures on the frontier. There we are not able to collect any revenue on that head. Our State is getting Rs. 20 lakhs every year as revenue from tobacco. If, in our State, sufficient lands are available for its cultivation it would be possible for us not only to have enough tobacco for our use but we can export it as well. Now we mainly depend on Jaffna and Ceylon for tobacco; and we know that we are in competition with Ceylon with regard to our cocoanut products. The need for tobacco is so keenly felt that those who use it could not give up that practice. We have delayed too long in solving this emergent problem and the Government can have absolutely no excuse to offer for not framing the necessary rules to enable the people to carry on tobacco cultivation. Moreover, when this question was raised in the Public Accounts Committee last year, the members representing this House were told by the Government that "the rules regarding tobacco cultivation were being considered, and after they were passed applications for cultivation of tobacco will be considered". That promise was made out 8 months back; and we have heard nothing further. Under these circumstances I submit that Government should readily accept the spirit of my resolution and avoid further delay in this matter.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution moved by my friend Mr. Asan. I do not think there is any necessity to bring in further arguments to make this resolution acceptable to this House. Nor do I think that the Government will have any satisfactory explanation to offer for the delay caused in framing rules. But I wish to point out one thing at this juncture. When the Public Accounts Committee meets and raises questions and the Government gives satisfactory answers, we drop those questions on those assurances in the belief that the Government would be true to their words. But, Sir, we are now so pessimistic that I even doubt whether the rules have been framed at all. I was told at the sittings of the Public Accounts Committee that the Government were considering the rules. I am given to understand that the rules have not yet been framed. Whatever that be, I wish to point out the paramount necessity of investigating this question thoroughly for making it possible for us to experiment on this cultivation. We must ascertain also how many acres of land will be available for this cultivation. Sir, the Mysore Budget for this year reveals the potentialities of tobacco revenue, provided, the cultivation can be carried on successfully in the State. We find from their report that the Government of Mysore has found it possible to cultivate the best kind of Virginian tobacco in their State. They have also found out that about 1,00,000 acres of

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[Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

land are suitable for the cultivation in Mysore. They are investing very large sums of money on the scheme; and it has been found from the budget speech that the Government of Mysore places very high hopes on the possibilities of the success of tobacco cultivation in that State. Sir, there is absolutely no reason for this delay except the apathy of departments directly connected with this business and the lethargy of Government in this matter in spite of the repeated attempts on the part of the non-official side to bring to their attention this matter. Apart from the question of direct gain to the people and to the Government there is also the question of retaliating Ceylon for what she has done and is doing in regard to our cocoanut products. This is the only possible way of hitting her, however lightly it may be. Sir, the question of Government revenue has also to be considered in a matter like this. I do not think there will be any objection if Government propose by particular ways leasing out land or allowing cultivation of tobacco under a system of licenses. Those are all matters of detail. The Government have not yet moved in the matter. They have not yet worked out even the preliminaries. So, it is now too premature for us to discuss on those details. Firstly we must find out whether there are enough lands available for cultivation. Secondly, we must find out the possibilities of cultivating useful tobacco, for, the Excise Commissioner has often said that the people would not like the tobacco that we are to grow here, and that it would be impossible to get the taste of Jaffna tobacco as they adopt a special curing process. Sir, there is nothing like impossibility in this matter. It has been found possible by the Mysore Government to so cure tobacco that it could well compete with the flavour of pure Virginian type. I think, the Government will look into this question seriously and try to work out a practical scheme with a view to make it possible for the people and the Government to make a substantial gain from this new and profitable industry. In Mysore it has been proved to be a profitable industry. In some places in that State, I am told other crops are being displaced by tobacco. I do not know whether there is enough lands in our State suitable for tobacco cultivation. At any rate it requires serious consideration. With these words, I second the resolution moved by my friend Mr. Asan.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: In considering this resolution I hope honourable members will keep in view the fact that the Government have more than once promised to do whatever necessary to enable tobacco to be cultivated in Travancore. I say this because in the light of that fact discussions of a certain character may not be necessary. So, I propose to call upon the Excise Commissioner to make his statement.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): To begin with, I concede that as stated by Mr. Asan, the ban on the cultivation of tobacco in our State still continues, for all practical purposes. Mr. Asan has taken us through the early history of the proposal for permitting people to cultivate tobacco in the State and the action taken by

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Government from time to time in that direction. There is no use now in covering the same ground, or in narrating the various stages of the progress made towards the fulfilment of that objective. I would content myself with saying that the rules are very near being finally passed. Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai, in his speech was inclined even to disbelieve this, and to throw the blame at the Government that they are not true to the statement which they made before the Public Accounts Committee that they were considering the rules. I do not know on what authority Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai siad that the rules had not been even framed.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The expression "considering the rules" bears two interpretations, (1) considering the rules before they are actually framed, and (2) considering the rules after they are made. Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai expressed himself in good faith.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): What Mr. Kunjukrisha Pillai specifically said was that according to his information the rules had not been framed. I may tell him and the other members of the House, that the rules were framed and published in the Government Gazette more than a year ago. I did not expect such a remark from a responsible member of the House.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know the date of the Gazette in which the rules were published?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I did not note down the date as I did not anticipate this question.

The draft rules were published with a view to invite objections or criticisms from the public as they relate to a very important matter, the cultivation of tobacco. If the cultivation of tobacco is not properly supervised and controlled the Government as well as the people will lose heavily. As I said two days ago, in reply to an interpellation, Government get over Rs. 21 lakhs as revenue from ordinary tobacco alone.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Do the rules relate to the cultivation of Coimbatore tobacco alone or include Jaffna tobacco also?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The rules relate to the cultivation of all kinds of tobacco. As a matter of fact, the difference between Coimbatore and Jaffna tobacco lies only in the method of curing.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): When it is cultivated will it not be Travancore tobacco?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): It is left to the people to grow whatever kind of tobacco they like.

As I said the rules were published with a view to invite criticisms. The Government waited, and nobody offered any new suggestion or criticisms. None of the honourable members who seem to be eager to see that the Government remove the ban, cared to go through the rules. To my knowledge, not a single criticism or observation has been received after the rules were published in the Government Gazette.

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MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know where was the difficulty for Government to finally pass the rules ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : I am coming to that.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : May I know whether any time limit was fixed for offering criticisms ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : No. The draft rules were simply published inviting criticism.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I may intervene at this stage for a very definite purpose. Although the Excise Commissioner is not able to give the date, he knows that it has been published and the House will take his words as authoritative. But unless it is stated in the Gazette that the rules be confirmed and accepted only after a certain number of persons signified their assent there would be no good served in making any particular defence. The fact that nobody has objected means probably that the rules were drawn by very intelligent hands leaving nothing to be desired.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : How long is it since the rules were published ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : More than a year ago.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Why were the rules not finally adopted ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : The rules were published, and the Government awaited criticism. No criticism was forth-coming. The rules as drafted were then referred to the Law Officers ; they examined the rules and suggested certain modifications. The rules were then sent back to me. I have finally revised the rules and submitted them to Government. I think in the course of a few weeks the rules will be finally passed and published in the Gazette.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*) : May I know whether the Department of Agriculture has been consulted at any stage before or after the framing of the rules ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : The Department of Agriculture has expressed the opinion as to the suitability of the land for cultivation.

Before giving the power to cultivate tobacco Government wanted to know how far people will be able to take advantage of the privilege. But it was thought that that would delay matters further. So, it was decided to leave it to the people to select suitable places to start cultivation.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know whether the Commissioner had any idea as to the availability of suitable land in Travancore, at the time when he framed the draft rules ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : I am not entirely devoid of all ideas in the matter.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : If so, may I know the approximate extent of land available for cultivation in Travancore ?

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MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): That is a question for the people interested in the matter.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know ... ...

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: He said that he was not devoid of all information. That is to say, he knew that there were lands and he would leave it to the people to investigate and select suitable lands.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether he kept in his mind, when he drafted the rules, the question of availability of lands?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Rules are framed under the impression that there is land available for cultivation. That was the opinion of the then Director of Agriculture, read out by Mr. Damodaran Asan. There was no necessity for further investigation. We were more interested in passing the rules than in ascertaining the accurate extent of lands.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I wish to know whether, in pursuance of what the Excise Commissioner said in 1927 that Government will ask the Agricultural Director to carry on experiments, anything has been done?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): When the question was taken up by me it was considered whether we should have, before framing the rules, an experimental cultivation or whether we would frame the rules straight away and permit people to cultivate tobacco. Government decided that they would better pass the rules and leave the responsibility to the people. The rules will be passed in the course of a few weeks.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Honourable members fear that unless proper experiments are made, the producers may lose, as they have no experience in the matter.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): May I know whether excise revenue is not going to be realised once the cultivation is started.

MR. C O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Even on tobacco grown in Travancore. excise duty will be levied; otherwise Government will lose their tobacco revenue.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): In that case how can free cultivation be allowed anywhere and every. where?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Nobody said free cultivation will be allowed.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: In the light of what the Excise Commissioner has stated, that he considered the point of view of his department more than the agricultural possibility, and the opinion of the Director of Agriculture formerly as referred to by Mr. Damodaran Asan, he need not advert further to it.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): In the light of the statement, may I be permitted to say that the house is very anxious to know what the Director of Agriculture has to say on the matter?

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DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order, Order. I should certainly have allowed that question, if the Excise Commissioner had not stated that all those questions were considered by him. He has definitely said that he was only at the stage of framing the rules and he sent a draft to Government. In the light of what he has stated the point need not be urged.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Sir, I would respectfully point out the desirability of this House knowing the opinion of the Director of Agriculture.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The House has to take its chance. There is no use of pursuing that question.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): May I know whether the Excise Commissioner is aware that tobacco grows in every part of Travancore?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I am not aware of it, Sir.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Is he aware of the fact that in every taluk, his subordinates are destroying tobacco every year?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): I am not aware of it either, Sir.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know what are the restrictions that are imposed upon tobacco cultivation according to the rules?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): For the cultivation and curing of tobacco licenses will have to be taken.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Order, order. The resolution reads like this.

"This Assembly recommends to the Government that the prohibition against the cultivation of tobacco be removed".

That is the sole question before the House. The rules may be good or bad. But all those discussions do not come in at this stage.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Sir, may I know whether the rules after they have been amended by the Law Member and scrutinised by the Excise Commissioner, were published in the Gazette?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): No, Sir.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I take it that that will be the final form?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether it will be published for public criticism?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Not likely.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): സർ, തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഭരണയന്ത്രം എത്രയോ സാവധാനത്തിലാണ തിരിയുന്നത്. ജനങ്ങളുടെ ക്ഷേമത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനുള്ള അനാസ്ഥയുടെ ഏറ്റവും പരിതാപകരമായ ഒരു ദൃഷ്ടാന്തമാണ വാദവിഷയമായ പുകയിലകൃഷി: പുകയിലകൃഷി തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ വളരെക്കാലം മുൻപുമുതൽ നടപ്പിൽ

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വരുത്തേണ്ട അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഒരു കാര്യമായിരുന്നു. അതുനിമിത്തം ജനങ്ങൾക്കു തൊഴിലും, ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു കൂടുതൽ ആദായവും ഉണ്ടാക്കാൻ കഴിയുമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ധരിപ്പിക്കുകയും അതിന്റെ ഫലമായിട്ട് അതിനുവേണ്ടി ചിലതെല്ലാം ചെയ്യാമെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറ് വാഗ്ദത്തംചെയ്യുകയും ഉണ്ടായി എങ്കിലും ഇതുവരെ യാതൊന്നുംതന്നെ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ചെയ്യാതിരുന്നിട്ടുള്ളതും ചെയ്യിക്കാതിരുന്നിട്ടുള്ളതും ആലോചിക്കുമ്പോൾ വളരെ സങ്കടം തോന്നുന്നുണ്ട്. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ ഏറിയകൂറും ആളുകാംക്ഷം പുകയില ഒഴിച്ചുകൂടാത്ത ഒരു സാധനമാണ്. ഇപ്പോൾ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലേക്ക് ഇറക്കുമതിചെയ്യുന്നതായ പുകയില ഏതോ ചില രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽനിന്ന് എങ്ങിനെയെല്ലാമോ ഉണ്ടാക്കി അയക്കുന്നു. അതു് എങ്ങിനെ ഉണ്ടാക്കി അയയ്ക്കുന്നു എന്നു നമുക്കു നിശ്ചയമില്ല. ഒഴിച്ചുകൂടാൻ വയ്യാത്ത ഒരു സാധനമായതുകൊണ്ടു കയ്യിൽക്കിട്ടുന്ന തരത്തിലെല്ലാം മനുഷ്യർ ഉപയോഗിക്കുകയാണു ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. വിഷംചേർത്താണോ അതോ മനുഷ്യർക്കു ശരിയായി ഉപയോഗിക്കത്തക്കനിലയിലാണോ അവർ പുകയില ഇങ്ങോട്ടയയ്ക്കുന്നതു് എന്നു തുക്കം നിശ്ചയമില്ല. അതുനിമിത്തം നമുക്കു ചില രോഗങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടാകാറുണ്ടെന്നു ഡാക്ടർമാരും പറയുന്നു. അതിനാൽ ഏതാനും ചില വിശേഷന്മാരുടെ മേൽനോട്ടത്തിൽ ഈ നാട്ടിൽ നാംതന്നെ പുകയില കൃഷി ചെയ്യുന്നപക്ഷം ഈവക ഭയത്തിനുള്ള അവകാശം ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതല്ല. പുകയിലകൃഷി തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നടത്തി ആദായം എടുക്കാമെന്നു് ഇവിടത്തെ ഏറ്റവും പ്രശസ്തനായ ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ ഏറിയനാൾ മുൻപുതന്നെ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ധരിപ്പിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. ജനങ്ങളുടെ ക്ഷേമത്തെ ശരിയായവണ്ണം നോക്കിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒന്നാണ് നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെൻറെങ്കിൽ ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സംഗതികളിൽ ഇത്ര വലിയ അമാന്തം വരുത്തുന്നതു് എന്തുകൊണ്ടാണ്? ജനങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടിയുള്ള ഗവണ്മെൻറല്ല, ഗവണ്മെൻറിനുവേണ്ടിയുള്ള ജനങ്ങളാണ് ഇവിടെയുള്ളതു് എന്നു ചിലപ്പോൾ ചിലർ പറയുന്നതു കൂടിവച്ചു് ആലോചിച്ചുനോക്കുമ്പോൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന് ഇതിൽ എന്തോ എതിരഭിപ്രായം ഉണ്ടെന്നുകൂടി തോന്നിപ്പോകുന്നു.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. Varughese, this is no motion for censuring Government. If it were one I would have allowed you greater latitude. In this case the Government have acknowledged the justice of the demand. The Excise Commissioner on behalf of Government, has made a very clear statement that in a few weeks the rules will be published and then the cultivation of tobacco can be taken up. I am

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[Deputy President.]

saying this because I heard Mr. Varughese say that the Government have been guilty. They might have been, but at present that does not arise in the light of the statement made by the Excise Commissioner.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*) സർ, പുകയിലകൃഷി ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുള്ള തടസ്സങ്ങളെ നീക്കിക്കിട്ടണമെന്നു പറയുന്നതു് ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആവശ്യം അതുപോലെ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടാണു്. തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മ പരിഹാരമുണ്ടാക്കുകയും അവരവർ കൃഷി ചെയ്യുണ്ടാക്കുന്ന സാധനങ്ങൾ അവരവർക്കുതന്നെ ഉപയോഗിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യാമല്ലോ എന്നുള്ള കരുതിയാണു് ഈ ആവശ്യതികരം കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഏറ്റവും പ്രധാനമായ സംഗതികളിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ഇതുവിധത്തിലുള്ള അനാസ്ഥ കാണിക്കുന്നതു് ഒരിക്കലും അഭിലഷണീയമായിരിക്കുകയില്ല. ഇതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് ഏതാനും ചില ചട്ടങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറു നിർമ്മിച്ചു ഗസറ്റിൽ പരസ്യംചെയ്തിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നു പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഈ കൃഷി നടത്തി, ഇതു് ആദായകരമാണു്, ഇന്നയിന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കൃഷി നടത്താം എന്നുംമറും കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള യാതൊരു പരീക്ഷണങ്ങളും നടത്തിയതായിട്ടു അറിയുന്നില്ല. ഈവക സംഗതികളിൽ കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെക്കൊണ്ടു വേണ്ട പരീക്ഷണങ്ങൾ നടത്തിച്ചു ഈ കൃഷി സംബന്ധിച്ചു സകലവിധമായ അറിവുകളും സമ്പാദിച്ചു് ഇതിനെ ഏതെല്ലാം മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളിൽക്കൂടി പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്താമെന്നു ജനങ്ങളെ ധരിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട മുമതല ഗവണ്മെൻറിനുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ആ മുമതല കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനും ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നതാണു്. കൃഷിഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുമായി ആലോചിച്ചു അവരെക്കൊണ്ടു വേണ്ട പരീക്ഷണങ്ങളും നടത്തിച്ചു, ഈ കൃഷിയുടെ നന്മയെപ്പറ്റി ജനങ്ങളെ അറിയിക്കാമെന്നു മുൻപൊരവസരത്തിൽ ചെയ്ത പ്രസ്താവന അനുസരിച്ചു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു അതു ചെയ്യാമായിരുന്നതേയുള്ളു. എന്നാൽ ഇതുവരെ യാതൊന്നും നടത്തിയിട്ടില്ല. അപ്പോൾ, ജനങ്ങൾ ഈ കൃഷി ചെയ്യുകൂടാ എന്നാണു ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ വിചാരമെന്നു തോന്നിപ്പോകുന്നു. പുകയിലകൃഷി തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നടത്തിക്കൂടാ, അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്താൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു് ഇപ്പോൾ കിട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ആദായത്തിനു് കുറേ കുറവുവരും, അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ കൃഷി തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നടക്കരുതെന്നുള്ള ഒരു മനോഭാവം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനില്ലേ എന്നു ഞാൻ സംശയിക്കുന്നു. ഇപ്പോൾ ഈ പ്രശ്നം ഈ സഭയുടെ മുൻപാകെ വീണ്ടും കൊണ്ടുവന്നിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് എത്രയും വേഗത്തിൽ

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ഈ കൃഷി നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു നടപ്പാക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം വേണ്ട എല്ലാ നടപടികളും നടത്തണമെന്നുള്ള അപേക്ഷയോടും അങ്ങിനെ നടത്തുമെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാസത്തോടുംകൂടി ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Mr. S. J. Nair, I find an identical Resolution in your name. Do you propose to move that.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : I do not move that. I support the resolution before the House.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Sir, the resolution before the House requires that the prohibition against the cultivation of tobacco be removed. The Excise Commissioner has pointed out that rules for the removal of the prohibition have been framed, and examined by the Law Officers and the Government and have almost taken the final shape. In the course of a week or two the rules will be finally passed and published in the Gazette. With the publication of the rules, the prohibition that now exists against the cultivation of tobacco will disappear. My friend Mr. Damodaran Asan will then have gained the object he has in view in moving this resolution. As far as the resolution is concerned it will be admitted therefore that the result is going to be satisfactory.

In the course of the discussion several other points have been raised, such as the suitability of the soils in Travancore for the cultivation of tobacco, the extent of land available for such cultivation, and the profit that may be derived from it. The promise made by the then Director of Agriculture and the then Excise Commissioner in 1927 that experiments on the cultivation of tobacco would be conducted and the results published for the information of the public, was also referred to. Sir, this question has been before the Government for the last several years. Much earlier than 1927 the question of cultivation of tobacco in Travancore used to be brought up at the sessions of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. The attitude of Government was that before full freedom was granted to the ryots for the cultivation of tobacco some experiments should be conducted to find out whether tobacco which was ordinarily consumed in Travancore could be produced here. The tobacco which is highly appreciated in Travancore is the Jaffna variety. No doubt, in South Travancore the so-called Tinnevelly tobacco is being consumed. And in certain parts of Central and North Travancore the Coimbatore variety is consumed. But it will be admitted on all hands that the one variety that is most appreciated by a large section of the people in Travancore is the Jaffna variety. The question has been asked whether it will be possible to cultivate the Jaffna variety in Travancore. Mr. Sivathanu Pillai asked the Excise Commissioner whether he was aware of the cultivation of tobacco in Aramboly in former times. I am aware that tobacco was cultivated in Aramboly and it is now being cultivated beyond Aramboly, in the Tinnevelly District. I admit that the variety that is being cultivated

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[Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

in Tinnevelly could be cultivated on this side of Aramboly also. Though a certain amount of Tinnevelly tobacco is being consumed in Travancore the variety that is largely in demand and highly appreciated is the Jaffna variety. Next to Jaffna, people prefer Coimbatore tobacco even to the Tinnevelly variety. Whether these two varieties, Jaffna and Coimbatore which are largely in demand in Travancore could be cultivated is the point for consideration.

In 1927 I made the candid admission that I myself was not familiar with the process of cultivating and curing tobacco. I also pointed out that it was necessary to conduct experiments. The Excise Commissioner then agreed with me, and, o behalf of Government, he made a statement in the Council that the Director of Agriculture would be asked to conduct experiments. The matter remained there, and subsequently, Government thought that the demand for the cultivation of tobacco could be met by making rules granting permission to the people to cultivate it. The demand of the people was only for such permission. They thought that they could themselves cultivate tobacco without any experiment being conducted by Government and so they only asked for the removal of the ban on cultivation. Government therefore decided that they need not saddle the Department of Agriculture with the responsibility to conduct experiments.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Do the Government now propose to help the public by asking the Department of Agriculture to conduct experiments?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If, after the rules are passed, gentlemen like Mr. Sivathanu Pillai who say that tobacco can be easily grown at Aramboly do not take to its cultivation, then the Department of Agriculture will have to be asked to conduct experiments and advise the people. In a couple of weeks the prohibition will be removed by the publication of the necessary rules.

Mr. G. Nilakantan asked whether tobacco was not being cultivated from Cape Comorin to Parur. He was an Assistant Excise Commissioner; he must have had occasion to pull out tobacco plants which he found growing in some places. Because he found a few such plants here and there, he says that tobacco can be cultivated from Cape Comorin to Parur. Tobacco plants may be growing luxuriantly near houses, but that does not mean that tobacco of the varieties required can be produced on a large scale.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Does the member know that in Coimbatore different varieties are now cultivated which did not exist previously?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Chief Secretary was speaking only of the tobacco grown in Travancore.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Coimbatore was growing only one variety formerly. Now there are one hundred varieties.

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RAO BAHADUR RAJASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That is no news to me. I know it as much as Mr. Nilakantan himself.

Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai has stated that Mysore is producing tobacco which is as good as Virginia. If by experiments it is found that the organisms necessary for curing will thrive in Travancore, Virginian variety of tobacco can be produced here also. All that I said in 1927, probably I had repeated it later on also, was this. The method of curing has to be studied if any variety of tobacco has to be cultivated here. It is not like the hill-men growing a plant or two near their huts.

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): Without an opportunity to cultivate how can we develop the industry?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no point of difference between Mr. Nilakantan and myself. Tobacco may grow—I do not hazard an opinion—anywhere in Travancore. Whether it will be possible to grow and produce the varieties that are in demand has to be experimented upon.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*) : May I know whether Government, along with the promulgation of new rules, are prepared to open an experimental tobacco farm somewhere in South Travancore?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): In connection with the framing of the rules that question was not considered. After the rules have been passed and after some ryots have started cultivation, if they really find that they cannot get on without experiments being conducted by proper experts, Government may probably consider the question then. At present there is no such idea. All that Government have now been asked to do is to remove the ban on tobacco cultivation and that is proposed to be done by the publication of the rules.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Should not Government teach cultivation to people who are willing to cultivate tobacco?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Government will do it if necessary. The present move is only for the removal of the ban on cultivation.

Now Sir, with regard to the profits, in 1927 I had supplied certain statistics and those figures hold good even now. Tobacco is a very exhausting crop. It cannot be cultivated in places where taploca or cashew grows. It wants a deep loamy soil of good quality. In virgin forests where there is plenty of vegetable mould it will grow well. But in ordinary soils of barren laterite hill slopes, I am afraid, it will not grow successfully. In Aramboly and Nagercoil, one can grow tobacco, but the area available for the cultivation is limited. All the available dry lands there have been converted into wet lands. Unless one is prepared to give up paddy cultivation or cultivate tobacco in rotation with paddy on wet lands one cannot think of tobacco cultivation in South Travancore on a large scale. I am afraid the extent of lands available for tobacco cultivation in South Travancore is very limited.

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MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : Without undergoing all these troubles can we in Central Travancore grow tobacco?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The hills there are not fit for tobacco cultivation. My friend Mr. Krishna Pillai need not think of it for Karunagapally. It is full of cocoanut gardens and paddy fields and there is hardly any vacant land. If Mr. Krishna Pillai wants to make Rs. 400 per acre, I am afraid he has no chance.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : Is it not possible to grow tobacco on the foot of cocoanut trees?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It will not grow at the foot of any tree.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : Does it require sunshine?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Gocernment*) : Yes. It wants a free open soil unimpeded by any other crop. If the land is good and is heavily manured, there is the possibility of getting a good crop. As I said in 1927, if you spend Rs. 400 on cultivation you may make a profit of Rs. 400 per acre.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Was Rs. 400 profit arrived at as a result of any experiment?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, from the experiments conducted elsewhere.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : Was it, in relation to Travancore soil and Travancore conditions?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No. You can expect a profit of Rs. 400 per acre from tobacco cultivation if it is cultivated properly on suitable land.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : May I know whether, with Travancore soil and Travancore conditions, tobacco cultivation can promise to be a paying concern?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I said in 1927 that experiments must be conducted. We are now where we were in 1927. All that the Government propose to do in response to the persistent agitation of the people, is to remove the ban on the cultivation of tobacco. Even though the ban is going to be removed, there will be some restrictions to safeguard the Government revenue. As the Excise Commissioner pointed out Government now are getting a revenue of about Rs. 20 lakhs from tobacco. They cannot afford to lose it. Government are not going to allow tobacco cultivation from Cape Comorin to Parur. Blocks of suitable lands will have to be selected, licenses for cultivation issued and the cultivation conducted under the supervision of the Excise staff. These restrictions will be found in the rules. If later on any necessity for conducting experiments arises, the question will then be considered.

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): With these restrictions, do Government think that a large number of cultivators will be forthcoming?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say that. From the representations made on the floor of this House and at the sessions of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly one should expect that a large number of people will rush in for licenses. Rules were published a year ago and criticisms were invited. No single individual has come forward so far with criticisms. It may either be that the rules are entirely satisfactory or that the people do not take interest in tobacco cultivation. But, if they do rush in, in spite of the restrictions in the rules, Government will have no objection to grant licenses.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam II*): May I know whether there are tobacco cultivation experts in Travancore?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, Sir.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: On the general question of the cultivation of tobacco there does not seem to be any difference of opinion between the Government and the non-official members. Some points were pressed on the attention of the House in the course of the discussion particularly the necessity of making experiments. The Government propose to pass the rules shortly, leaving it to the people to begin cultivation and perhaps burn their fingers. I heard a suggestion made that the Government will do well to authorise some experiments being conducted by Government experts. That is the only difference of opinion which I have heard.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): My resolution as it stands has been stated to be so simple that the Chief Secretary stated that it is going to be carried out within a week or two. It appears from what he said that he or the Government are not concerned with regard to the conducting of experiments and ascertaining whether the cultivation of tobacco will be successful. Sir, I sent this resolution in continuation of the discussion that took place in 1927. I claim to have done like that What was stated then reads thus:

> "In view of the strong feeling that exists in the House, the Director of Agriculture will be asked by Government to make experiments in tobacco cultivation. If they produce promising results and if applicants for license thereafter come forward the question of framing rules under Section 31 of the Tobacco Regulation will be considered."

So, when I brought forward this resolution I expected the Government to say that they have conducted experiments and that they have found the results to be satisfactory and that they were going to frame rules or that the experiments failed. Therefore if I just bring forward a resolution relating to the rules to remove the ban I think that question naturally will have to be answered according to the assurance given by the Government in 1927. Government are not prepared to

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[Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan.]

conduct this experiment. They are prepared to have cocoanut demonstration and experimental farms in places where cocoanut trees will grow in plenty, paddy cultivation and demonstration farms where paddy cultivation is a proved success. If we want to have a new cultivation in our country which would naturally add to our national prosperity, the Government come forward and say that they will remove the ban and that the people may try at their own cost and waste money on experiments.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Will the member please refer to the undertaking of Government in 1927 ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): It reads thus:

> "In view of the strong feeling that exists in the House, the Director of Agriculture will be asked by Government to make experiments in tobacco cultivation . If they produce promising results and if applicants for license thereafter come forward the question of framing rules under Section 31 of the Tobacco Regulation will be considered."

This was the statement. So, I think even under my present resolution the Government are bound to tell us as to whether experiments were conducted, and, if not, why and as to how they are going to held us in cultivating tobacco. It is really a big risk, and the Government are bound to put us on the way. They can conduct experiments. Here we have to take license, begin cultivation in a sufficiently extensive area so as to induce Government to have a special staff—controlling Excise staff. All that means a big investment. The Agricultural Department has to justify its existence and Government should see that their undertaking is carried out by conducting experiments. Therefore it is not a satisfactory answer to tell us at this stage that the ban for the cultivation of tobacco will alone be removed.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Therefore does the member suggest that the prohibition should continue even now because Government did not conduct experiments ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I want the prohibition to be removed. Also I want Government to take necessary steps which would enable us to be benefitted by such removal.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): So, until then, is it the member's opinion that prohibition should not be removed ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): No. That is not my point.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Is it the member's point that the Government by issuing the rules or by proposing to issue the rules, are putting the cart before the horse ? Does the member say that the Government have begun at the wrong end ?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): My friend Mr. Thanu Pillai is quite correct, in his inference, now the Government have

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chosen to begin with the rules instead of beginning with experiments. There is absolutely no difficulty in having the rules framed and carrying on experiments. It would have been better if they had carried out the experiments and then framed the rules subsequently. There is absolutely no inconsistency or difficulty in the framing of rules after conducting experiments as in that case the rules could have been so framed in the light of the results of the experiment. I would be satisfied, though there has been such a delay of more than 25 years, after the Tobacco Regulation was passed, if the Government would, at least now, undertake to do all that is necessary to start successful tobacco cultivation in the State and assure us that the present undertaking would not be like that of 1927.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Without proper experiments being conducted, would not the ban still continue in effect, even though the rules are passed ?

MR. G. NILAKANTAN (*Nominated*): May I know from the member whether the manufacture of salt, or the rules therefor, came first ?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The member has sat down.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): What the resolution contemplates is the removal of the prohibition against the cultivation of tobacco. The resolution, as it stands, is accepted by Government. This is the resolution.

"This Assembly recommends to the Government that the prohibition against the cultivation of tobacco be removed".

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Apart from the technicalities of it, there is the further question regarding the experiments for the cultivation of tobacco. That is a separate question which the Government have to consider.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The prohibition against the cultivation of tobacco will be removed subject to the rules to be passed and published within a week or two. The other question is not contained in this resolution.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know from the official member whether Government will think of helping the people in the cultivation of tobacco by starting experiments and trying to find out whether it is possible to do it.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): May I say, Sir, that it will be considered.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I suppose Mr. Asan will be satisfied with that. The Chief Secretary on behalf of Government has stated that this question also will be considered.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I am not satisfied with mere consideration. Even definite promises of action, do not seem to be dependable.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: All that Mr. Asan can do is to press the motion to a division. I think there is a real difficulty. A division is not necessary because the Excise Commissioner, on behalf of Government, has accepted the resolution.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): He has not accepted the spirit of the resolution.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The word "prohibition" may mean legal prohibition or practical prohibition. That is the sense in which Mr. Asan, as I understood him, used the word in the course of his speech. Certain members have raised the point as to the cultivation being profitable. The necessity of Government conducting experiments was also mentioned. I thought, whatever be the technicality, it would be good that Government gave an encouraging answer. It was therefore that I gave a second chance to Government. Technically all that Mr. Asan can do is to press the motion to a division. But when a resolution, as it stands, has been accepted by Government can it be put to vote?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, I may be permitted to move the resolution standing against my name, along with the present resolution so that the whole difficulty will be removed. Both resolutions can be put together.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): It was suggested by the Chair to Mr. S. J. Nair that he might move his resolution along with this.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: But he did not take advantage of the suggestion offered by the Chair.

MR. S J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, I took advantage of it. I supported the resolution on the ground that there was a resolution standing against my name. That is the reason why I submit for the kind consideration of the Chair that this resolution may be put along with my resolution.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I cannot accept that suggestion in the light of what has transpired. I gave Mr. S. J. Nair a chance. But Mr. S. J., Nair did not take advantage of it. If he had done that he could have persuaded the House to adopt it, by adding one or two words. I called pointed attention to Mr. S. J. Nair's resolution. All that Mr. S. J. Nair did then was to stand up and say that he supported this resolution. For that reason, I hold that the present request made by Mr. S. J. Nair cannot be allowed.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): That resolution can be taken up only in the order in which it comes.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): Can we take up Mr. S. J. Nair's resolution now.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Honourable members are expected to listen to what falls from the Chair.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): I want to clear my doubt.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: There is no prospect of the doubt being cleared just now. The point on which I wish to get advice is this *viz.*, whether, when a resolution which has been moved and seconded is accepted by Government without any amendment, it is necessary for the Chair to put it to vote? Is there any rule or ruling relating to that question?

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MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Technically the resolution has to be put to vote. There may be members who may vote against it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Sir, I press the motion.

The resolution was put to vote and carried.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I demand a poll.

A poll was taken and the House divided as follows:—

AYES—26.

1	Mr. N. Abdur Rahiman Sahib	15	Mr. K. M. Kuriakose
2	,, K. C. Abraham	16	,, Pacode A. Narayana Pillai
3	,, T. K. Alexander	17	Srimathi T. Narayani Amma
4	,, A. S. Damodaran Asan	18	Mr. S. Nilakanta Pillai
5	,, A. Easwara Pillai (Kalkulam II)	19	,, Edavanatt S. Padmanabha Menon
6	,, K. R. Elenkath	20	,, Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai
7	Miss Hepzibah Gnanasikamony	21	Rao Sahib Mahakavi S. Paramesvara Aiyar
8	Mr. M. Mahomed Haneef	22	Mr. R. Sivaraman Nair
9	,, S. J. Nair	23	,, M. Sivatanu Pillai
10	,, T. C. Joseph	24	,, S. Thiraviam Nadar
11	,, K. M. Krishnan	25	,, P. K. Thomas
12	,, K. P. Krishna Menon	26	,, N. E. Varughese
13	,, Puthupalli S. Krishna Pillai		
14	,, K. Kunjukrishna Pillai		

NOES—1.

Mr. G. Nilakantan

NEUTRALS—20.

1	Mr. V. T. Chacko	12	Mr. E. K. Kunjuraman
2	,, C. V. Chandrasekharan	13	,, C. O. Madhavan
3	,, Antony George	14	,, K. Madhava Kurup
4	,, K. George	15	,, K. R. Narayana Aiyar
5	,, N. John Joseph	16	,, Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai
6	,, N. Kesava Panicker	17	,, R. Pitchu Aiyangar
7	,, T. T. Kesavan Sastri	18	,, Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar
8	,, N. K. Krishna Pillai	19	,, A. Thanu Pillai
9	,, T. Krishna Pillai	20	,, John Whitely Tolson
10	,, O. Kumara Das		
11	Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai		

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Mr. S. J. Nair wishes to move resolution No. 26 standing against his name. But I cannot permit him unless the House authorises me to pass over the other resolutions and come to that.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): By passing over to resolution No. 26 the other resolutions must not be lost sight of.

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MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): I request that resolution No. 26 may be taken up now.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, the proposal is out of order. The order of resolutions is decided by ballot and they must be taken up in the order fixed by the ballot. It can otherwise be done if at all only with the *unanimous* consent of the House. It is not open to any member to change the order. Of course, the opinion of the House may be ascertained. There should not be a *single* dissentient.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Sir, I rise to a point of order. The Chair suggested that if any member proposes, this may be taken up; the Chair has left the matter to be decided by the House, so that no question of unanimity arises. It is therefore not open to the Law Member to rule out what the Chair has said and say that there must be unanimity.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Let me see the rules.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Mr. S. J. Nair will please point out the rule or Standing Order upon which he relies.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I will just draw the attention of the House to Standing Order 6, Paragraph 24 on page 16 of the Manual.

Paragraph 24, clause (6) of the Assembly Manual says:

"The relative precedence of notices of resolutions given by the non-official members shall de determined by ballot to be held in accordance with the procedure set out in Schedule I.

Provided that the President may, from time to time make such variations in the said procedure as he may consider necessary or convenient."

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: "President" used there does not mean the person presiding here. It refers to the President.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): What that rule says is that ordinarily precedence is determined by ballot; but, the President may order any other procedure to determine the order. But here the procedure of ballot has already been adopted. The rule quoted does not apply to the precedence already fixed by following any procedure.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Where is the rule authorising for any motion to be moved in advance. It is for Mr. S. J. Nair to satisfy the House with regard to this right by showing the relevant rule.

Mr. S. J. Nair:—On the suggestion of the Chair I made this motion; and I attach much importance and value to the orders of the Chair, Sir. (*Laughter*).

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: When the Chair said that, it only means, reasonably, *ie*, if the rules warrant, of such a procedure, attention may be drawn to it. I did so for the luxury of doing a kindly office to Mr. S. J. Nair. Because the Chair raised that suggestion it does not mean that all rules of procedure are to be abrogated. If Mr. S. J. Nair had called my attention to the rule which justified his position I should have considered such a procedure.

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